STATE & LOCAL TAXES

Sales Taxes

Florida does not impose personal income, inheritance, or gift taxes. However, there are other taxes and fees that in certain counties or circumstances, Florida residents may be required to pay such as convention development tax, local options tourist tax, fuel tax, communications services tax, gross receipts tax, lead-acid battery tax, new tire fee, motor vehicle (Lemon Law) fee, rental car surcharge, initial vehicle registration fee.

Florida's general sales tax is 6%. Each retail sale, admission charge, storage, use, or rental is taxable, along with some services. Some counties impose a discretionary tax. The county tax rates can range from .25% to 2.5%, and are levied on the first \$5,000 of the purchase price.

The \$5,000 discretionary tax limit does not apply to commercial rentals, transient rentals or services. Consumers pay sales tax and any county imposed taxes to the seller at the time of purchase.

Discretionary Sales Surtax

Hillsborough County has a discretionary sales surtax of 1% on purchase price up to \$5,000 Pasco County has a discretionary sales surtax of 1% on purchase price Pinellas County has a discretionary sales surtax of 1% on purchase price There is an additional 5% tax on accommodations (i.e. hotels). Information from http://myflorida/dor form number dr15dss

Property Taxes

If you purchase a home in Florida you will pay Ad Valorem or "Property" tax based on the taxable value of the property. Ad Valorem taxes are assessed by the county property appraiser and collected annually by the county tax collector's office. Florida's 6% tax applies to and is due on motor vehicles brought to this state within 6 months of the date of purchase. If the individual resides in a county that imposes a discretionary sales surtax, that tax will also apply. Use tax and discretionary sales surtax do not apply if a like tax equal to or greater than 6% has been lawfully imposed and paid to another state, territory of the United States, or District of Columbia that reciprocates with Florida if less than 6 months from date of purchase. You must provide documents proving the date of purchase and taxes paid. ALL vehicles brought from another country regardless of the date of purchase even if taxes were paid to that country is subject to Use and Sales taxes to Florida. The taxes due are on the value of the vehicle at the time it is brought to Florida not on the purchase price. The only exception is if you owned the vehicle in the US or US territory before going to and returning from another country.